

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 07247 271926Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 CIEP-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /044 W

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P 271856Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1211

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7247

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: GOC REACTION TO BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH MEXICO

REF: MEXICO 9963

1. MEXICAN BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH "THE PRESENT GOVT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE" (REFTEL) GIVEN TOP HEADLINE COVERAGE IN SANTIAGO PRESS NOV 27, WITH ARTICLES CONCENTRATING ON TEXT OF MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT. NO TIME YET FOR EDITORIAL REACTION, BUT WE ANTICIPATE IT WILL BE HEAVY AND VITUPERATIVE. SEVERAL ARTICLES RECOUNT UPS AND DOWNS OF CHILE/MEXICO RELATIONS SINCE SEPT 11, 1973 COUP.

2. PRESS ARTICLES CITE PRESENCE IN MEXICO CITY OF MINECON FERNANDO LENIZ WHO IS ATTENDING INTERAMERICAN MEETING ON INDUSTRIALIZATION.

3. FONMINISTER ADM. CARVAJAL REFUSED TO COMMENT, STATING THAT OFFICIAL GOC DECLARATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING POSSIBLY TODAY. NEVERTHELESS, PRESS QUOTES UNIDENTIFIED "HIGH GOVERNMENT SOURCE" AS SAYING MEXICAN DECISION IS "LAMENTABLE" AND "IS PRESUMABLY BASED UPON INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS AND DOES NOT REFLECT THE FEELINGS OF AFFECTION WHICH HAVE ALWAYS UNITED THE PEOPLES OF CHILE AND MEXICO."

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 07247 271926Z

4. COMMENT. MEXICAN MOVE OBVIOUSLY CAUGHT GOC BY SURPRISE. GIVEN BACKGROUND OF WHAT GOC CONSIDERS WAS MEXICAN DOUBLE-CROSS STEMMING FROM RABASA VISIT IN MAY, COUPLED WITH ANTI-JUNTA REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, WE EXPECT VIOLENT OUTBURST OF ANTI-GOM RHETORIC. LIKE EMBASSY MEXICO (REFTEL), WE HAVE NO PRECISE KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT PRECIPITATED MEXICAN ACTION. SOME EARLY RADIO REPORTS SPECULATED THAT ACTION IS SOMEHOW RELATED TO DETENTION OF LAURA ALLENDE FOR WHOM GOM HAS OFFICIALLY OFFERED POLITICAL ASYLUM.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANTIA07247
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740344-0933
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974117/aaaaafoz.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MEXICO 9963
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOC REACTION TO BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH MEXICO
TAGS: PFOR, CI, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005